

# EUROPEAN PATENT OFFICE

## Patent Abstracts of Japan

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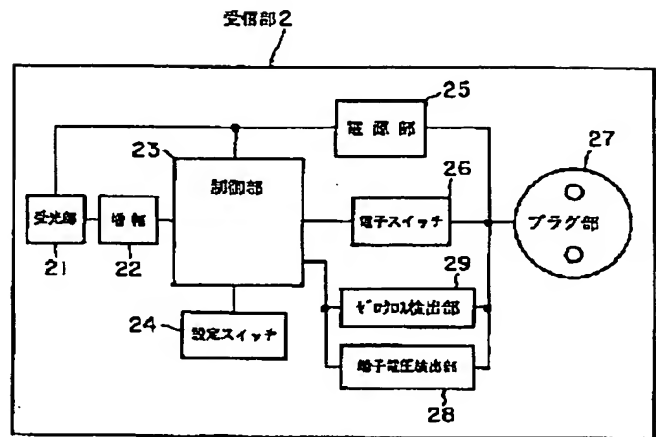
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APPLICATION NUMBER : 08210409

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INVENTOR : HORIUCHI SHOICHI;

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TITLE : REMOTE SWITCH FOR  
FLUORESCENT LAMP



ABSTRACT : PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED: To turn a plurality of fluorescent lamps on and off individually from a certain place.

SOLUTION: This remote switch comprises a transmitting part and a receiving part 2 which is inserted into a socket for the glow starter of each fluorescent lamp. At the transmitting part, an identification code signal for a selected key switch is converted into an infrared signal and radiated into space, and at a light receiving part 21 in the receiving part 2 the signal is received and converted into an identification code signal; a control part 23 then compares the received identification code with an identification code for a setting switch part 24, and if they are coincident, whether or not the fluorescent lamp is turned on is determined on the basis of an AC voltage level between the electrodes of the glow starter socket, the level being detected by a terminal voltage detecting part 28; if the lamp is off, near the peak of the AC voltage an electronic switch 26 causes a short circuit between the electrodes for a predetermined time, based on zero-cross timing detected by a zero cross detecting part 29, so as to turn on the fluorescent lamp; if the lamp is on, near the zero cross of the ac voltage a short circuit is caused between the electrodes for a predetermined time to turn off the lamp.

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